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SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...continue on.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I am again rising in strong support of the amendment and the bill; the amendment mainly because it's a trial period, it's an opportunity for the foundation and the members of the State Fair Park to prove that they have the wherewithal and the knowledge and the skill to make the fair again successful. I recognize, and all of us do, that it's had a difficult time. And so the attitude has been, why spend any money, why spend any effort on the State Fair? Well, it's like anything else. It's like a A business is failing, and somebody comes in with a new vision, a new idea, and the business becomes successful and prosperous. That's what we're talking about with the Nebraska State Fair. We have a new vision. We have a new manager. have people that are willing to step forward on a foundation to work toward the future of the fair and make it successful. just...as an aside, I have to report to Senator Stuhr that the building, the FFA building has leaked. It's been a real problem. We've been...there's been a lot of discussion over the It's old years as to what to do with that building. obsolete. It's not as usable as it should be. But the maintenance money that's generated through the 309 . . . the cigarette tax did spend over \$125,000 putting a roof that will last at least until a decision is made what to do with it. because we couldn't continue. As a matter of fact, many of the FFA kids and the 4-H kids that came there were not going to come They were not going to come back because they spent a year or more working on a project, only to have it come down here, and if a rain came, they had to get down there and get it covered up, or have it destroyed. And so it was an issue that was difficult for the 309 task force, the 309 group to come to a conclusion on. But the final conclusion was, yeah, temporarily we have to do something in order to protect those kids. Because basically, in my opinion, what the State Fair of Nebraska about is about youth. It's about the young people who spend their time preparing all kinds of activities to come to present